

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 DLOS-09 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-05 DODE-00 L-03 INT-05 /049 W

-----001491 201740Z /53

P 201615Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 072

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DEPT PASS NOAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, TBIO, PLOS

SUBJECT: NOAA MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

1. EMBOFF INFORMED OFFICIALS OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SCST) ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING NOAA CRUISES AND PASSED INVITATION FOR SOVIET SCIENTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THEM. WE INFORMED ACADEMICIAN SIDORENKO ABOUT AUGUST SURVEYOR CRUISE AND INVITED SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN A LETTER DATED JULY 7, AND WE HAVE SENT HIM ANOTHER LETTER ABOUT THE SEPT CRUISE OF THE DISCOVERER.

2. SCST OFFICIALS DOUBTED THAT SOVIET SCIENTISTS WOULD BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE, NOTING THAT THEY PREFER TO RECEIVE FOUR TO SIX MONTHS NOTICE ABOUT JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH CRUISES. SCST OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, ASKED WHETHER MORE THAN TWO SOVIET SCIENTISTS COULD PARTICIPATE IN THE CRUISES. THEY ALSO REQUESTED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS BEING CARRIED OUT AND ABOUT THE ROUTE THAT THE VESSELS WILL FOLLOW. (WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THE STATION LOCATION CHART MENTIONED IN REF B.)

3. SCST OFFICIAL CALLED ATTENTION TO THE DECEMBER 10, 1976 DECREE  
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BY WHICH THE SOVIET UNION CLAIMED SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OVER FISH AND "OTHER LIVING RESOURCES" IN AREAS UP TO 200 MILES FROM THE SOVIET COAST. HE NOTED THAT NOAA VESSELS APPARENTLY INTENDED TO CARRY OUT BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND MARINE MAMMAL OBSERVATIONS WITHIN THIS 200 MILE ZONE. SCST OFFICIAL -- WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK -- ALSO CLAIMED THAT U.S. LOS DELEGATION

TOOK THE POSITION AT LATEST SESSION THAT COASTAL STATES  
MIGHT IN SOME CIRCUMSTANCES CLAIM THE RIGHT TO REQUIRE  
PRIOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON LIVING  
RESOURCES WITHIN TERRITORIAL FISHING OR ECONOMIC ZONES.  
SCST REP DID NOT REPEAT NOT STATE THAT USSR WAS NOW REQUESTING THAT  
U.S. OBTAIN SUCH PERMISSION. HOWEVER, HE LEFT OPEN  
POSSIBILITY THAT USSR MIGHT DO SO IN THE FUTURE. EMBOFF  
STRESSED THAT HIS PURPOSE WAS SIMPLY TO INFORM SOVIETS ABOUT  
THE OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH THAT THE NOAA VESSELS INTEND TO  
CONDUCT, AND TO INVITE THE SOVIET SCIENTISTS TO PARTICIPATE  
IN IT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INFORM US ABOUT THE TYPE OF  
RESEARCH THAT NOAA VESSELS WOULD CARRY OUT WITHIN 200 MILES OF  
SOVIET COAST.  
TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009